

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 SS-15 L-03 H-01
NSCE-00 HA-05 PA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00
SSO-00 /055 W
-----050252 021659Z /44

O 021634Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5071

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USICA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, SOPN, UR, US

SUBJECT: SLANDER CHARGES AGAINST TWO U.S.

CORRESPONDENTS

REF: MOSCOW 15452

1. WHITNEY (N.Y. TIMES) WAS SERVED SUMMONS TO APPEAR IN COURT TOMORROW (AUGUST 3) 1300 LOCAL TIME. HE ACCEPTED SUMMONS AND WAS TOLD ATTEMPT HAD BEEN MADE TO SERVE PIPER (BALTIMORE SUN) AS WELL. PIPER CURRENTLY VACATIONING IN U.S. AND EXPECTED TO RETURN TO MOSCOW AUGUST 14.

2. FOLLOWING VISIT FROM PROCESS SERVER, WHITNEY MET WITH HIS SOVIET LAWYER WHO INFORMED HIM THAT IF HE DOES NOT APPEAR IN COURT, HE WILL PROBABLY BE FINED FIFTY (50)RUBLES. IF HE FAILS TO MAKE RETRACTION, HE CAN BE REPEATEDLY FINED UNTIL TOTAL REACHES THREE HUNDRED (300) RUBLES. ACCORDING TO LAWYER, PROCESS OF INCREMENTAL FINES

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CAN THEN BE RE-INITIATED UNTIL THREE HUNDRED (300) RUBLES IS AGAIN REACHED, AFTER WHICH CASE DIES NATURAL DEATH.

3. WHITNEY HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT HE DOES NOT INTEND TO APPEAR IN COURT TOMORROW, AND THAT IF FINED HE WILL PROBABLY DO SO UNDER STRONG

PROTEST. TOON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLEGATIONS, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 aug 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW18174
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780316-0444
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808107/aaaadmal.tel
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7b078b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MOSCOW 15452
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1561898
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SLANDER CHARGES AGAINST TWO U.S. CORRESPONDENTS
TAGS: OGEN, SOPN, UR, US, (PIPER, HAROLD), (WHITNEY, CRAIG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7b078b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014